

IMPACT CHINA 2017



IMPACT CHINA 2017 Program Information

Join us this summer teaching and traveling in China! As an Impact China volunteer or intern, you will have the opportunity to make a significant impact on your students and the local community through your service. You will experience personal and professional growth, make new friends, and have the travel adventure of a lifetime!

Impact China

ABOUT US

Impact China is a social enterprise dedicated to promoting intercultural exchanges, specifically between the peoples of the USA and China. Teach & Travel China is our flagship program, offering volunteers the chance to serve the children of China while having an authentic travel adventure. We experience China in a way traditional tours never can. For photos of past trips and more info, see www.impactchina.org.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

We will be teaching English as a Foreign Language (EFL) along with various elements of US culture, such as music, dance, sports, art, life-skills and leadership. We teach these elements of American life in order to create a fun and engaging “summer camp” experience for our students.

In the classroom, our goal will be to improve the English ability of our students. Through creative classroom exercises and educational games, your teaching experience and abilities will improve the overall English competence of your Chinese students. In addition, you will expose them to American culture and lifestyle, and give them the opportunity to interact and learn from a native English speaker.

As a highly valued foreign teacher, you will also promote an exchange of cultures with Chinese students, teachers, administrators, and the greater community. During and after classes, you will interact with these eager adults, answering questions and sharing your opinions and expertise.

Evenings will alternate between cultural and educational classes (Tai Chi, calligraphy, etc.) and fun activities (karaoke, foot massage, etc.). When camp is completed, we will travel to see some of the most famous and incredible places in China, including a Buddhist sacred mountain, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and other places of natural, historic or cultural significance.

LOCATION

We will be teaching in our new state-of-the-art English education and culture center in Taiyuan, Shanxi Province, and in public schools in Zhuzhou City, Hunan Province.

DATES

Teach & Travel camps run from approximately June 30th through August 15th. Exact dates will be announced as soon as they are determined. The summer is divided into three sessions (called “camps”) and you may opt to attend 1, 2, or 3 camps.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Nightly accommodations are included in the program fee and may be in hotels and onsite teacher’s apartments. Accommodations will generally be double occupancy.

FOOD

We will eat freshly prepared, safe, authentic Chinese food. Please do not expect to eat as you do at home—or to eat Panda Express-style “Chinese” food. Lunches during the teaching portion will be taken in the cafeteria, with dinners eaten out. During the travel portions, food will be had at a wide variety of restaurants. Eating is an adventure, and one of the highlights of the trip! Some may like to bring snacks or “comfort food” from home to supplement their diet.

WEATHER

Plan for warm 80-90 degree weather with high humidity. Dressing in lightweight clothing and breathable fabrics is advisable. Our hotel rooms and classrooms will have air conditioning, but some facilities will have none. Summer rain is also common. A packing guide will be provided.

EFL CURRICULUM AND TEACHING APPROACH

Our emphasis will be on improving our students’ conversational English, as well as teaching them about American life and culture. We will teach some grammar, composition, and vocabulary. Students will be challenged to practice their speaking and listening in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. We will talk and teach about holidays, customs, family life, current events, US history & government, food, etc. The primary focus of our camps is to surround the students with native-spoken English and to have FUN.

Classes are taught 100% in English, but we will have Chinese assistant teachers in the classroom to translate when needed. We will coordinate curriculum, lessons plans and materials within 30 days of departure. We’ll also have an orientation and training meetings so you are prepared and have plenty of support.

TYPICAL TEACHING DAY

Here is an outline is typical of a typical camp daily teaching schedule:

- 7:30am – Breakfast
- 8:30-11:30 – English classes with breaks
- 11:30pm – Lunch in cafeteria with students
- 12:00-2:00 – Team meeting and free time
- 2:00-4:00 – Auxiliary classes (sports, music, US history, etc.)
- 4:00-5:00pm – Alternating classes for teachers (Mandarin, calligraphy, tai chi, etc.)
- 5:00pm – Dinner and nightly sightseeing
- 9:00pm – Internet time, laundry, prepare for the next day
- 10:00 – Bedtime

(Remember, this is only an example. Each camp is different and the details change often.)

COST

We are very excited to be able to offer this experience at an affordable rate you won't find anywhere else (and we dare you to try!). **The total cost for this program is \$2400** for the Summer and **\$1600** for Winter.

Program Cost Includes:

- **Round-trip airfare** between China and the departure airport
- Accommodations for the duration of the trip (excluding possible extra nights at trip's end)
- 3-meals-per-day for the teaching and travel portions of the trip (there may be times you choose to eat elsewhere or purchase additional snacks and drinks, but this is optional and will be your responsibility)
- All travel, activities, and excursions (additional travel at end of the trip may be offered TBA)
- All tickets, admissions, entrance fees, etc.
- All in-country transportation
- Cross-cultural lessons and activities
- Pre-departure preparation and orientation
- Visa assistance and flight planning
- English-speaking guides and translators
- Impact Exchanges trip leaders

Program Cost does NOT include:

- Travel insurance (if desired)
- Chinese Visa (and passport if you do not already have one)
- Souvenirs, snacks, tipping, laundry, telephone, gifts, and personal expenditures
- Vaccinations (if desired)
- Cost of travel to Phoenix, our departure city. Please inquire about travel from a different US city.

Deposits:

A deposit of \$100 is expected with your application to hold your spot. Money is credited towards your total program costs.

Discount incentives available!

- Family discount – each member receives \$100 off!
- Recruit a friend, receive \$100 off!
- Early payment discount. Please inquire.

Payment Plan:

Payment plans may be available. Contact us for details.

FEES ARE DUE BY **January 1st** UNLESS ALTERNATE ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE

ELIGIBILITY

No specific education or experience are required for the Teach & Travel program. That does **not** mean we don't have any requirements! We carefully select applicants with great attitudes, a sense of adventure, flexibility, and the desire to cross cultural boundaries and make a positive difference in the world.

Expectations for our participants:

- **A genuine interest in foreign cultures and peoples** (and specifically China, of course)
- Enthusiastic spokesperson for traditional US values, patriotism, and lifestyle. **A positive role-model.**
- A real desire to **teach and serve the Chinese people**. Yes, we will travel and visit amazing locations. However, the main focus of this program, and truly the most life-impacting part of this program, will be your associations with the Chinese people. This is not a tour, and your focus should be on the people you will be serving and the experiences provided to you as you teach them.
- **Friendly, outgoing, and willing to share** yourself and your personal life openly. This is not the time to be shy. Expect our hosts to be interested in your life and eager to hear every word you say. Be prepared to be stared at and photographed everywhere we go (not exaggerating here!).
- **Easy-going**— this experience is not for the “high maintenance.” If you are expecting 5-star accommodations, then the trip probably isn't for you. China is, in many ways, still a third-world country and you should expect some conditions will be rustic and/or challenging.
- **Flexible and willing to adapt** and work “on the fly.” No matter how prepared we think we are, you can count on one thing—things will change. There is a saying in China: **“The plans will never keep pace with the changes”** and we find this to be very true! This is sometimes a difficult concept for new teachers to deal well with. Most have never before experienced working in this type of reality, and it can appear from the outside that there is a lack of planning or disorganization. We can not stress this idea enough. We will prepare you as best as we can, but we know from our past experiences, it is completely certain that plans will change.
- **In good overall physical health.** You must be able to walk several flights of stairs per day, and walking between the school and hotel during the camp — with even more during the travel portion.
- Thinks “win-win” and **work as a team**. We will be living, teaching, and playing together for extended periods of time, and it's important that everyone works well with others.
- Willing to **lead, think and work independently**. Every member will be leading the group and teaching alone at times. Your input and participation are very important.
- **High moral integrity** and willing to abide by a strict code of conduct and behavior, including: no alcohol, smoking, or drugs; no lewd or inappropriate speech or behavior; no romantic fraternization; follow all local laws, school and program rules; respect Program Leader's authority and decisions; maintain neat and modest dress. We are representatives of our country, our families, and Impact Exchanges, and are being watched AT ALL TIMES! (Anyone who breaks these rules may be sent home immediately with no refund. Although we expect no issues, please take these rules very seriously.)

- **GREAT “CAN-DO” ATTITUDES!** If you bring this, anything can be overcome and accomplished! If you THINK you will have an amazing experience in China, we guarantee you WILL have one!!!

CHECKLIST

- ____ Fill out Application (found at www.impactchina.org).
- ____ Interview with Impact recruiter
- ____ Pay \$100 deposit (will be credited towards your program fee)

After acceptance, send:

- ____ A scanned copy of passport (if you do not have one, apply now)
- ____ A copy of your CV or resume
- ____ 2-3 photos of yourself
- ____ Payment of program fees or make payment arrangement
- ____ Visa application (instructions will be sent)
- ____ Signed Program Agreement

Application and Deposit due by Jan. 1st

(Late applications accepted until program is full with additional fee)

Questions or comments? Email, Call or Text:

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(480) 480-528-8242
www.ImpactChina.org